



T&W Corp.

PRAYERFULLY PLANNED...JOYFULLY EXECUTED

By Jo Wells



The cornerstone of T&W Church Solutions' reputation is its team approach.

Exceptional customer service is a vital quality in a successful business. It requires an ongoing commitment to excellence few companies these days seems willing to make. Since T&W Corp.'s inception in 1968, its success has been founded upon a unique dedication to its customers' total and complete satisfaction on every job. The company's team approach in meeting client needs in a thoughtful and dependable manner is the cornerstone of its reputation.

"Simply stated, the T&W Church Solutions mission is to ensure that our church clients stick to their mission," says Kurt Williams, group leader of Church Solutions, a division of T&W. "Our Church Solutions process, people, passion and commitment to continuous learning are used everyday to build the Lord's Kingdom. There are too many examples of churches, all across the country, which get distracted from serving the Lord during a building project. The results are devastating; loss of membership or even loss of their pastors. T&W's goal is that the design and building process be a time of ministry focus and growth, not a time of ministry distraction."

Church Solutions Process

Through the Church Solutions process at T&W, the concept is not to shove your ministry into a structure, but to wrap a facility around your ministry. By using the industry's most comprehensive approach, the T&W Church Solutions team is able to look at every possible challenge to facility growth long before it becomes a problem. From the selection of building committee members, to selection of the right architectural firm to best serve that particular congregation through selection of subcontractors—and ultimately the construction of the facility, T&W is right there beside you and your church.

“The design process is a balance of three very important aspects that every project has: ministry, materials and money,” states Williams. “The tension between wanting to build everything that the ministry needs, using the finest materials available to build, while being restrained by the money available for the project is not an easy challenge. The balance of this is further proven as life cycle costing becomes a more influential element in the choice of materials—and thus the cost—used on a project.”



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Recent data indicates that over the span of 40 years, only 11 percent of costs incurred by the church relates to the construction of the original facility, while upwards of 75 percent of the costs are to maintain and repair the facility.

“The choice of materials used on a facility will not only affect the cost of today’s project, but will also affect the future financial capabilities of your church,” Williams explains. “Our integrated approach allows our church clients to establish a balance between the three, as opposed to only being allowed to have two and sacrifice the third.”

Value engineering takes place very early in the process when the least amount of funds is being expended. By integrating a team of professionals, T&W involves various consultants, engineers, subcontractors and suppliers into the design process along with the client and the architect. The results are exciting: a building that serves the ministry and a structure that is architecturally pleasing—all for the budget that had been established from the very beginning.

National statistics provided by F.W. Dodge indicates that construction projects average being 30 percent over budget. “At T&W, our price—is our price,” Williams states.

Because the team is integrated very early in the process the T&W Church Solutions team is now fully responsible for any challenge that is faced on the project.

“If a T&W Church Solutions client has a problem, they have a T&W problem,” says Williams. “There is no finger pointing in the event of a challenge. T&W owns the problem and will deliver the solution.”

Team Dedication

Leading the T&W Church Solutions team are Williams and Steve Shehorn, company vice president, each of whom have more than 20 years of construction experience with more than 60 ministries served. They will be with you from the first meeting to the building dedication.

While both Williams and Shehorn work with several churches that are going through the Church Solutions process at any one time, a jobsite superintendent is dedicated solely to your project. “We believe that a jobsite superintendent must focus on each individual job, one at a time, regardless the size,” says Shehorn. “A T&W job superintendent will never run more than one job at a time.”

As vice president, Shehorn’s responsibility is to serve as his clients’ construction advocate by ensuring that their desires and needs are incorporated into a clearly defined scope through each phase of development—from discovery to architecture to final construction—making sure that consistent and accurate budgeting culminates into a completed project that exceeds each client’s expectations. Focusing strongly on men’s ministry, Shehorn is very active in his church.

Through the discovery and architecture stages, Williams' responsibility is to ensure that the project team is in complete alignment with the expressed needs of your ministry. His extensive experience with all aspects of the design and construction process facilitates excellent communication between all members of your project team and allows you to have an efficient and seamless project from start to finish.

Williams' process design for church development has won state awards and recognition throughout the construction industry. With 15 years focused on Christian ministries, Williams has worked with more than 50 churches in the United States and abroad. Serving and developing healthy churches has become a joyful part of his work.

"We don't work with churches for the great working hours; we do it because our passion is to serve the Lord by assisting growing churches build effective facilities that will be used to save the lost," says Williams.

George Barna statistics are disturbing: more than 50 percent of today's churches have a set of plans that will never be built and cost the congregation significant amounts of resources. The average career life of a pastor that is leading a church through the building process is 18 months to 22 months.

"T&W's passion is to effectively integrate industry professionals, using a proven process, to ensure that our



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clients do not become statistics," Shehorn explains. "Our continuous improvement program ensures that we are constantly providing our church clients with the latest proven, efficient and appropriate facility possible."

Continuous Learning

What makes T&W unique? "We know what we are doing and are passionate about it," says Shehorn. "T&W Church Solutions focuses on designing and building Christian worship facilities. As a team, we are sensitive to the pressures felt by church staff and building committee members during the design process. We recognize that each church has a different vision and purpose for its building program and offer the benefit of our church design and building experience without changing your vision and purpose.

"Because of our passion for our chosen field of specialization within the design-build industry, it is easy for

T&W to stay abreast of current trends in church architecture and construction."

As an active member in the National Association of Church Design Builders (NACDB), T&W has access to the architectural designs and construction documents of association members across the nation.

"Thus you can be assured that you not only have the benefit of our talents, but the experience of select church designers nationwide," says Shehorn. "Our membership in the NACDB brings 'best practice,' cutting-edge ministry concepts from around the nation to the central Indiana churches that we serve. In combination with our nationally recognized Church Solutions process to design and construct your facility, this adventure can truly become a period of ministry focus, not ministry distraction."

T&W is also an active member in the ABC (Association of Builders and Contractors) and has won numerous quality and safety awards over the years; is an active member in the Jack Miller Network; active member in the Derrick Group (a small group of best practice contractors); and, for the last decade has been rated one of the top 25 contractors in Indiana by the *Indianapolis Business Digest*. ♦

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—Steve Shehorn, vice president, T&W Corp

To learn more about T&W Corp., visit its Website at www.tw-corp.com or call 371.244.7637.